

**Listing and Amendment of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for performing digital recording and playback, comprising steps of:

enabling a user to ~~record digital signals onto a~~ select a recording title stored on a digital storage medium for password protection;

receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title;

storing said password ~~in at least one unreserved data field on said digital storage medium, wherein said at least one unreserved data field is included in a first presentation sequence for said recorded digital signals on said digital storage medium in a same program chain as said selected recording title;~~ and

requiring said password to be input before playing back said ~~recorded digital signals~~ selected recording title.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of storing menu data representing a password menu screen on said digital storage medium.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said menu data is stored in a ~~second presentation sequence different from said first presentation sequence~~ different program chain than said password and said selected program title.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said ~~first and second presentation sequences represent different~~ program chains are according to DVD specifications.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of storing at least one command on said digital storage medium that enables display of said password menu screen.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said password menu screen is displayed responsive to a user's attempt to playback said ~~recorded digital signals~~ selected recording title.

8. (Currently Amended) A digital recording and playback apparatus, comprising:  
interface means for interfacing said digital recording and playback apparatus with a digital storage medium; and  
control means for enabling a user to ~~record digital signals onto~~ select a recording title stored on said digital storage medium for password protection, receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title, and causing said password to be stored in ~~at least one unreserved data field on said digital storage medium, wherein said at least one unreserved data field is included in a first presentation sequence for said recorded digital signals~~ on said digital storage medium in a same program chain as said selected recording title.

9. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

10. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said control means further causes menu data representing a password menu screen to be stored on said digital storage medium.

11. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said menu data is stored in a ~~second presentation sequence different from said first presentation sequence~~ different program chain than said password and said selected program title.

12. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 11, wherein said ~~first and second presentation sequences represent different~~ program chains are according to DVD specifications.

13. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said control means further causes at least one command that enables display of said password menu screen to be stored on said digital storage medium.

14. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 13, wherein said control means enables display of said password menu screen responsive to a user's attempt to playback said ~~recorded digital signals~~ selected recording title.

15. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 14, wherein said control means further requires said password to be input responsive to said password menu screen before playing back said ~~recorded digital signals~~ selected recording title.

16. (Currently Amended) A digital storage medium, comprising:  
a plurality of reserved data fields; and  
a plurality of unreserved data fields ~~and a first presentation sequence for digital signals recorded~~ including a first program chain for a recording title selected by a user;  
and

wherein ~~at least one of said unreserved data fields is stored~~ said first program chain further includes a user-assigned password for said ~~recorded digital signals selected recording title~~, ~~said first presentation sequence includes~~ said at least one of said unreserved data field, and input of said user-assigned password is required before playing back said ~~recorded digital signals~~ selected recording title.

17. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 16, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

18. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim 16, further comprising a second ~~presentation sequence~~ program chain for a password menu screen.

19. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim 18, wherein said first and second ~~presentation sequences represent different~~ program chains are according to DVD specifications.

20. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim 18, wherein said password menu screen prompts input of said user-assigned password and is displayed responsive to an attempt to playback said ~~recorded digital signals~~ selected recording title.